RightsCon 2021

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF CONVENING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

7-11 JUNE 2021

rightscon.org
Our first convening in Africa, RightsCon Tunis, welcomes nearly 3,000 participants

Writer and political analyst Nanjala Nyabola delivers remarks at the RightsCon Tunis 2019 opening ceremonies

Shoshana Zuboff at RightsCon Online 2020

Rashad Robinson at RightsCon Online 2020

Participants of RightsCon Tunis coordinate during a session in strategy alley
Access Now is proud to bring you the 10th edition of RightsCon, the world’s leading summit on human rights in the digital age.

Every year, RightsCon convenes business leaders, policy makers, general counsels, government representatives, technologists, academics, journalists, and human rights defenders from around the world to tackle pressing issues at the intersection of human rights and technology.

In 2020, despite the loss of our shared physical spaces, RightsCon Online brought together a historic 7,681 participants from 157 countries to connect and coordinate for a rights-respecting digital future.

In 2021, we are pleased to bring RightsCon online again, where we expect as many as:

- **10,000+** participants
- **160+** countries
- **1,000+** companies, governments, and organizations

Next year, we will build off the success of our first online summit to create a global, responsive, and interconnected online convening. Through a combination of virtual high-level panels, informative Q&As, facilitated community meetups, and strategic roundtables, RightsCon Online will be a critical platform for global, regional, and local networks across all sectors to address a range of topics:

- Elections, democracy, and shrinking civic spaces
- Intersectionality on the internet
- Media in the age of misinformation
- Censorship and freedom of expression
- Content moderation and platform accountability
- Public health in the digital age
- Privacy and data protection
- Cybersecurity and the future of encryption
- Network disruptions and discrimination
- Alternative models for business and labor
- Cybersecurity and the future of encryption
- Digital disruption of philanthropy
- Innovations in sustainability and environmental justice
- Open government and smart cities
- Justice, jurisdiction, and the rule of law
RIGHTSCon: The 10th Anniversary

RIGHTSCon Online 2020
By Numbers

7,681 Participants
5,754 First-Time Participants
157 Countries
175% Participation Increase from 2019

Participants by Gender Group

56% Identified as a Woman

- Women
- Men
- Non-binary/third gender (inclusive of bigender, agender, genderfluid, and gender non-conforming)
- Preferred not to identify

Participants by Region

- Latin America and the Caribbean: 13%
- Europe: 24%
- Africa: 7.5%
- Asia Pacific: 13.5%
- Middle East and North Africa: 4%
- North America: 33%

Participants by Stakeholder

- Civil society: 40.8%
- Academic: 13.7%
- Private sector & start-ups: 11.4%
- International Institution: 6.4%
- Government: 4.5%
- Philanthropic sector: 4.1%
- Press and media: 3.8%
- Creative: 2.1%
- Investor: 0.4%
- Did not disclose: 4.8%
- Other: 8.1%
PREVIOUS SPONSORS

GOVERNMENTS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS

- Sweden
- Canada
- OSCE
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Federal Foreign Office
- IDRC CRDI

PRIVATE SECTOR

- Microsoft
- Mozilla
- Google
- Sonos
- Twitter
- Dropbox
- Facebook
- Cisco
- Reddit
- Vodafone
- Jigsaw
- Verisign
- Automattic
- Verizon
- BT
- TunnelBear
- NordVPN
- Zoom
- Cloudflare

FOUNDATIONS & CIVIL SOCIETY

- Luminate
- Humanity United
- Internet Society
- FRIEDRICH NAUMANN FOUNDATION
- FORD FOUNDATION
- ICANN
- ZENNSTRÖM PHILANTHROPIES
- WORLD WIDE WEB FOUNDATION
RightsCon speakers and program leaders have included:

**PRIVATE SECTOR**
- Brad Smith President and Chief Legal Officer, Microsoft
- Matthew Prince Co-Founder and CEO, CloudFlare
- Paloma Muñoz Director, Investor Alliance for Human Rights
- Mitchell Baker Chairwoman, Mozilla
- Niklas Zennström CEO, Atomico & Co-founder, Skype
- Larry Stone President of Group Public and Government Affairs, British Telecom (BT)
- Rick Salgado Director of Law Enforcement and Information Security, Google
- Teresa Patraquim da Conceição Head of Privacy, International, Novartis
- Alexis Ohanian Co-founder and executive chairman, Reddit

**PUBLIC SECTOR**
- Michelle Bachelet United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Audrey Tang Digital Minister for Taiwan
- Isabelle Falque-Pierrotin Chair CNIL (French Data Protection Authority)
- Alexander de Croo Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium
- Harlem Désir Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE
- David Kaye Former UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression
- Jessica Rosenworcel Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission, USA
- Agnes Callamard UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions
- Clément Voule UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Assembly & Association
- Edward Santow Human Rights Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission
- Paola Vega Castillo Minister of Science, Technology, and Telecommunications, Government of Costa Rica

**CIVIL SOCIETY, ACADEMIA, AND MEDIA**
- Rashad Robinson President Color Of Change
- Shoshana Zuboff Author, The Age of Surveillance Capitalism
- Sir Tim Berners-Lee Inventor of the Web
- María Paz Canales Executive Director, Derechos Digitales
- Anthony Romero Executive Director, ACLU
- Maria Ressa Journalist and CEO, Rappler
- Dragana Kaurin Founder & Director, Localization Lab
- Göran Marby CEO and President, ICANN
- Julie Owono Executive Director, Internet Sans Frontières
- Behrouz Boochani Author, Journalist, Professor
- Zeynep Tufekci Writer, Professor, and Techno-sociologist
- Nighat Dad Executive Director, Digital Rights Foundation
- Mohamed al-Maskati Digital Security Consultant, Frontline Defenders
- Gbenga Sesan Executive Director, Paradigm Initiative
- Fatema Ahmad Deputy Director, Muslim Justice League

RightsCon participating organizations have included:

**PRIVATE SECTOR**
- Airbnb
- Amazon
- Automatic
- British Telecom
- Cisco
- Cloudflare
- Dropbox
- Facebook
- Global Network Initiative
- Google
- GSMA
- Nokia Group
- OneTrust
- Psiphon Inc
- Reddit
- Snapchat
- Stripe
- Telefónica
- Telenor Group
- Telia Company
- Twitter
- Uber
- Verisign, Inc.
- Vodafone Group
- WhatsApp Inc.

**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS**
- Council of Europe
- European Commission
- Europol
- Global Affairs Canada
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Organization of Security & Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
- Swedish International Development Agency (Sida)
- Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
- U.S. Department of State
- UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- UNESCO
- UNICEF

**CIVIL SOCIETY AND ACADEMIA**
- Amnesty International
- Association for Progressive Communications (APC)
- Bahrain Watch
- Berkman Klein Center For Internet & Society
- Citizen Lab
- Committee to Protect Journalists
- Derechos Digitales
- Digital Defenders Partnership
- European Digital Rights (EDRi)
- Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF)
- Free Press Unlimited
- Global Forum for Media Development
- Human Rights Watch
- Humanity United
- IFEX
- International Human Rights Funders Group
- Internet & Jurisdiction
- Internet Sans Frontières
- Internews
- New America’s Open Technology Institute
- Open Society Foundations
- Ranking Digital Rights
- WITNESS
RightsCon sponsorship offers a unique opportunity to advance policy on human rights in the digital age, support a global community of grassroots actors, & demonstrate an enduring commitment to digital rights.

We encourage sponsorship for the following reasons:

- **The issues at the heart of the RightsCon agenda are more urgent than ever.** The global response to COVID-19 has highlighted and exacerbated crucial challenges at the intersection of human rights and technology, materially impacting policies and practices around data protection, surveillance, access to information, freedom of expression, disinformation, and so much more. Sponsorship supports and resources RightsCon’s continued ability to curate and coordinate a global agenda that can address these unique and urgent issues, and advance real-world outcomes in the form of practical solutions and principled policies.

- **Bringing leadership and a commitment to digital rights is more necessary than ever.** In the context of increasing upheaval and uncertainty, accelerated by the instability which COVID-19 has brought, there is a clear need and opportunity for leadership on and renewed commitment to digital rights and issues of shared importance. In addition to supporting a global community of civil society and other actors, and enabling vital conversations on issues of global importance, sponsorship signals to the world’s leading decision makers, lawyers, policy makers, researchers, technologists, and advocates a clear and direct commitment to human rights.

- **Alternative RightsCon programming offers new opportunities for sponsorship benefits.** While sponsorship tiers and benefits have changed to reflect the opportunities that are available through online-only programming, the new environment has not significantly impacted sponsors’ ability to demonstrate leadership and increase brand visibility. In fact, virtual programming creates new opportunities for significant engagement and visibility with the RightsCon community.

- **Online convening presents new avenues for targeted and long-term engagement.** RightsCon’s custom online platform creates new ways to experience RightsCon over time and asynchronously, including via the creation of an archive of online content that extends opportunities for community engagement and sponsor visibility indefinitely. It also enables engagement metrics that can present a clear snapshot of the community priorities and interests.
THERE ARE MULTIPLE BENEFITS TO HELPING RESOURCE RIGHTSCON

General sponsorship provides a number of opportunities to benefit, as set out below:

- **Free tickets made available for sponsor use.** Sponsors will receive tickets free of charge, with the number of tickets dependent on the level of sponsorship.

- **Visibility on the RightsCon website and online platform.** Sponsors will have their support acknowledged on the RightsCon website, as well as on RightsCon’s custom online platform.

- **Visibility during RightsCon Opening and Closing ceremonies.** Sponsors will have their support acknowledged during RightsCon’s Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

- **Visibility on the RightsCon Outcomes Report.** Sponsors will have their support acknowledged in RightsCon’s outcomes report, which shares highlights from the conference with the community.

- **Visibility on high-level sessions on the platform & archive.** Some sponsors will have their support acknowledged at the close of high-level sessions and conference plenaries, all of which will be archived on RightsCon’s custom online platform for indefinite viewing.

- **Opportunity to host an official social event on the platform.** Some sponsors will have the opportunity to organize an online social event, acknowledged on the platform and public program.

- **Targeted support in engaging the RightsCon community.** Some sponsors will receive elevated support for their participation at RightsCon, from assistance in coordinating private meetings to recommendations for relevant sessions, workshops for participation.

- **Support for public consultations.** RightsCon will support efforts to coordinate public consultations. Some sponsors will have this support included as a part of their sponsorship.

- **Enhanced visibility across all spaces and platforms.** A limited number of sponsors will have their support maximally acknowledged, with their logo placed prominently across the conference.
In addition (or separately), sponsors can also direct their support to fulfill specific needs.

**Accessibility Fund**

RightsCon’s online platform presents an opportunity to dramatically expand access. Support a full-scale audit and optimization of the platform to help RightsCon ensure readability, multilingual, device, and system compatibility.

**Connectivity Fund**

RightsCon’s Connectivity Fund provides financial support to stakeholders to enable their participation in the form of additional data to ensure strong connectivity, a transit pass to join from a local internet cafe, and more. Support our efforts to support grassroots actors.

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**GENERAL SPONSORSHIP TIERS AND BENEFITS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Friend of RightsCon (10K)</th>
<th>Networked sponsor (25K)</th>
<th>Platform sponsor (50K)</th>
<th>Leading sponsor (100K)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free tickets made available for sponsor use</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visibility on the RightsCon website and online platform</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visibility during RightsCon Opening, Closing ceremonies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Visibility on the RightsCon Outcomes Report</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visibility on high-level sessions on the platform &amp; archive</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunity to host official social event on the platform</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Targeted support in engaging the RightsCon community</td>
<td>Limited support</td>
<td>Limited support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for public consultations</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced visibility across all spaces and platforms</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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Access Now is a global non-profit organization that defends and extends the digital rights of users at risk around the world.

By combining direct technical support, comprehensive policy engagement, global advocacy, grassroots grantmaking, and convenings such as RightsCon, we fight for human rights in the digital age.

For more information on opportunities for sponsorship, please contact: melissa@accessnow.org

For more information on opportunities for engagement, please contact: rightscon@accessnow.org

For more information about RightsCon, please visit: rightscon.org

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